



Crossroads of the Underground Railroad

Part II

Susan Franz

The left side of the image features a vertical strip with a dark, semi-transparent background. It contains several silhouettes: a woman in a long, dark dress and a bonnet, a figure with arms raised holding a chain, and a profile of a woman's face. The background of the entire page is a light, warm-toned geometric pattern of overlapping triangles.

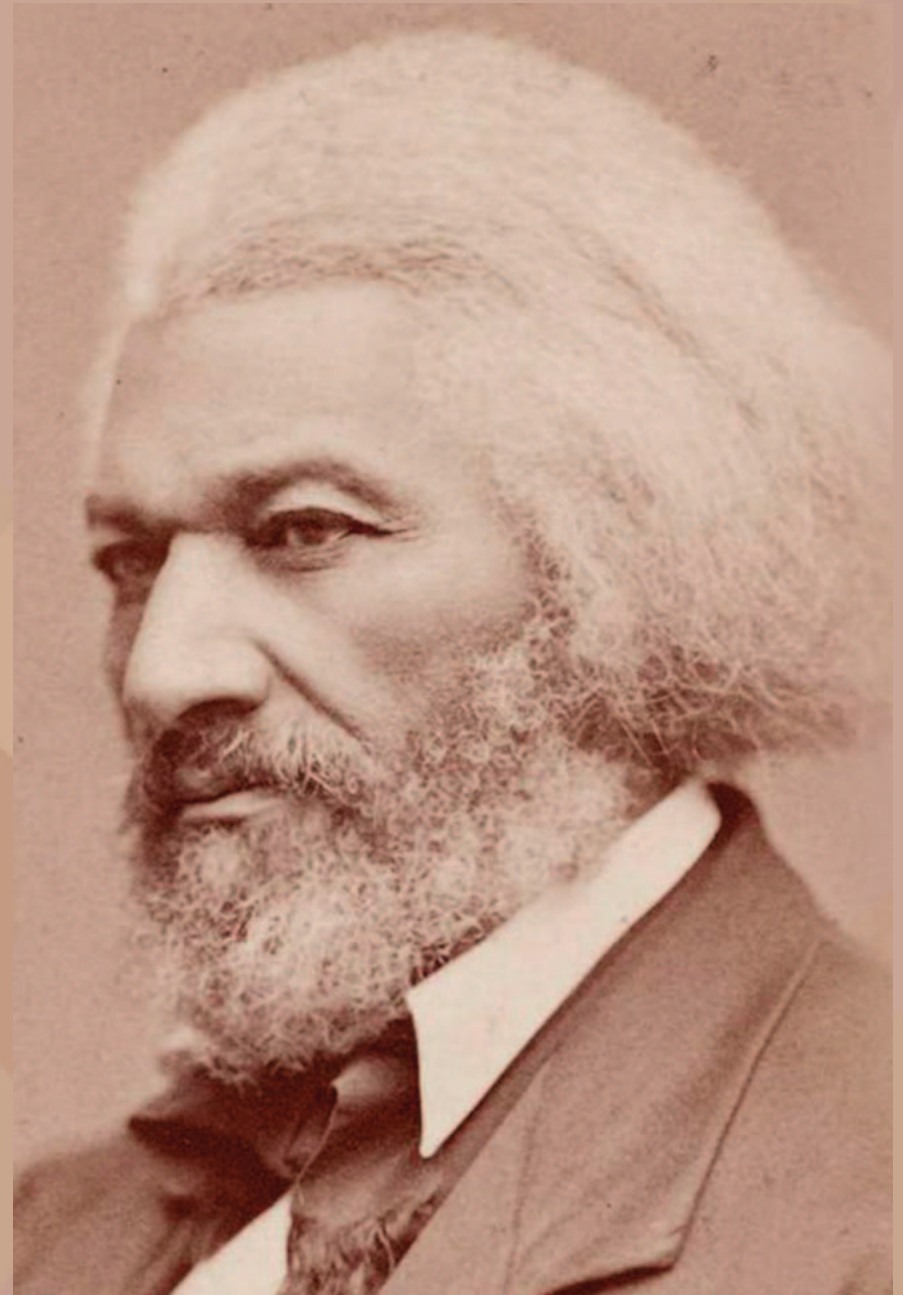
Thanks & Appreciation to:

Local historians:

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American Antiquarian Society
Library of Congress
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National Gallery of Art
National Portrait Gallery (UK)
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Royal Collection Trust

Truth is proper
and beautiful at
all times and in
all places.

–Frederick Douglass





The Underground Railroad in Southern New England

WH Seibert. 1936. American Antiquarian Society



male collar, c. 1635, *Cavalier Style*
BOWES MUSEUM

British Civil Wars

WARS OF THE THREE KINGDOMS



British Civil Wars

WARS OF THE THREE KINGDOMS



King Charles I (1625-1649)

ANTHONY VAN DYKE, 1633, WINDSOR CASTLE



**His Highness, Lord Protector
Oliver Cromwell (1653-1658)**

WANDECK PUNXIT, P. LOMBART
ROYAL COLLECTION TRUST

Fire and Sword



Archbishop William Laud

GVIL - (William)
 LAVD - (Laud)
 ARCHIESPISC - (Archbishop)
 CANTVAR - (Canterbury)
 XIAN 1644 - (Christian 1644)

ROYAL COLLECTION TRUST



King Charles I

CAROLUS I - (Charles I)
 D.G. (by the grace of God)
 M. (majesty)
 BR (Britain–England & Wales)
 FR (France) HIBR (Ireland)
 REX - (King)

ROYAL COLLECTION TRUST

Fire and Sword



Rev. Hugh Peter

Inherits Archbishop William Laud's Books after Laud's Execution

Travels and exhorts Cromwell's Army's to victory

G.E. SINTZENICH, 19th Cent.,
Mansfield College, Oxford



Oliver Cromwell

OLIVER - Oliver

D.G - (by the grace of God)

R.P - (of the Commonwealth)

ANG - (England) SCOT - (Scotland)

HIBERNIA - (Ireland)

PROTECTOR - Protector

ROYAL COLLECTION TRUST

Salem

The early Salem ministers were

- ★ Rev. Samuel Skelton (pastor)
- ★ Rev. Francis Higginson (teacher)
- ★ Rev. Roger Williams
- ★ Rev. Hugh Peter
- ★ Rev. John Fisk



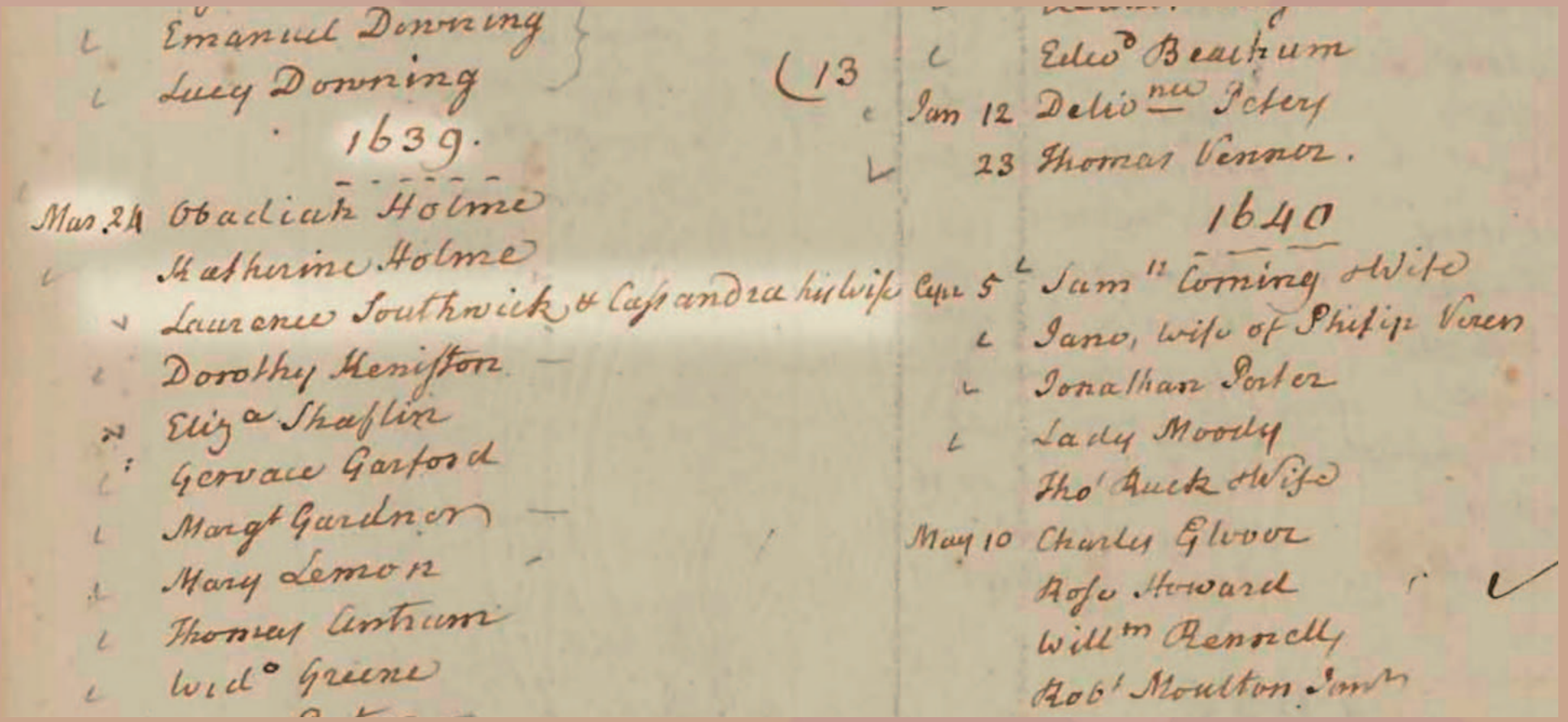
Rev. Hugh Peter



A FISHER GIRL ON THE BEACH, 1876
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Salem

- ★ In 1639, Laurence Southwick and his wife Cassandra, join the First Church in Salem.
- ★ They live in Peabody with a group of glassmakers.



202)		(Baptism)	
	Nath ^l . s. Wm Hathorne		3 -
7 - 7	Rebecca & Thomas ch: of ourg		17.
	Sister Lucy Page - - - - }		7 -
21 - 8	Thomas & Mary ch: of Tho' Moore		14.
10 - 9	Jonathan. s. Brother Ayer.		21.
6 - 10	Abraham Sarah ch: of Perfit }		
	Walker - - - - - }		
	Provided. d. Laurence Southwick		7 -
15.	John. s. Jacob Barney.		14.
	Mary. d. Peter Palfrey		
11	Nath ^l . s. Wm Woodbery.		
19.	John. s. Wm Diney.		
26.	John. s. Benj ⁿ Felton.		28
	Samuel. s. Wm Robinson		25.
	Isaac & Mary ch: Mr Stevens.		
16 - 11	Mary. d. Roger Maury.		5 -
	Bethiah. d. Wm Allen.		16.
	Henry. s. Henry Herrick		
23.	John. s. Rob ^t Ellwell.		27 -
	Lydia. d. In ^o Norman.	42.	4 -
	1640		13 -
1 - 1	John. s. Eman ^l Downing		
8.	Elizabeth. d. Mr Peters		
15.	David. s. Ralph Fogg.		2 -
	Elias. s. Elias Stileman Jun ^r		

Salem

★ First Church Baptismal records from 1639 record the baptism of “Provided d[ughter] of Lawrence Southwick.

★ Seven months later another baptism is recorded, “Elizabeth d[ughter] of Mr. Peters.”

		(Baptism)	
202)	Nath ^l . s. Wm Hathorne	3	-
Day 7 ^m	Rebecca & Thomas ch: of ourg	17.	
	Sister Lucy Page - - - - }	7	-
21 - 8	Thomas & Mercy ch: of Tho' Moore	14.	
10 - 9	Jonathan. s. Brother Ayer.	21.	
6 - 10	Abraham Sarah ch: of Perfit }		
	Walker - - - - - }		
	Provided. d. Laurena Southwick	7	-
15.	John. s. Jacob Barney.	14.	
	Mary. d. Peter Palfrey		
11	Nath ^l . s. Wm Woodbery.		
19.	John. s. Wm Diney.		
26.	John. s. Benj ⁿ Felton.	28	
	Samuel. s. Wm Robinson	25.	
	Isaac & Mary ch: M ^r Stevens.		
16 - 11	Mary. d. Roger Maury.	5	-
	Bethiah. d. Wm Allen.	16.	
	Henry. s. Henry Herrick		
23.	John. s. Rob ^t Ellwell.	27	-
	Lydia. d. In ^o Norman.	42.	4
	1640		13
1 - 1	John. s. Eman ^l Downing		
8.	Elizabeth. d. M ^r Peters		
15.	David. s. Ralph Fogg.	2	-
	Elias. s. Elias Stileman Jun ^r		

Provided Southwick

★ Provided Southwick was born in Salem a few months before Elizabeth Peter.

★ They likely knew each other well.

★ Provided Southwick and her family become one of our most important links between the early colonial period and the Underground Railroad.

202)		(Baptism)	
	Nath ^l . s. Wm Hathorne	3	-
7-7	Rebecca & Thomas ch: of ourg	17.	
	Sister Lucy Page - - - }	7	-
21-8	Thomas & Mercy ch: of Tho' Moore	14.	
10-9	Jonathan. s. Brother Ayer.	21.	
6-10	Abraham Sarah ch: of Perfit & Walker		
	Provided. d. Laurena Southwick	7	-
15.	John. s. Jacob Barney.	14.	
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16-11	Mary. d. Roger Maury.	5	-
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Provided Southwick

★ She and her family members are the ancestors of, at least, eighteen station keepers and prominent abolitionists.

★ Her own story is important to why her descendants would take substantial risks to protect men, women, and children on the Underground Railroad.

Sandwich, Cape Cod

- ★ 1656–English Friends’ missionaries Christopher Holden and John Copeland arrive in New England.
- ★ After a largely unsuccessful visit at Martha’s Vineyard, they go to Sandwich on Cape Cod.
- ★ They are well received in Sandwich and establish their first Friends’ meeting.
- ★ This meeting has met for more than 360 years.



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Sandwich, Cape Cod

- ★ Plymouth Colony is not tolerant of those with differing religious beliefs.
- ★ The colony levies a 'minister's tax' and punishes those who do not attend the official worship.
- ★ The Sandwich Board of Selectmen decline to punish the Quaker missionaries stating, "entertaining no desire to sanction measures so severe towards those who differed in religion."



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Sandwich, Cape Cod

- ★ The colonial General Court hires its own constable willing to enforce the religious laws in Sandwich.
- ★ Marshall Barlow imprisons the men in his own house, then takes them to Barnstable to be whipped.
- ★ Sandwich is fined for failing to have a whipping post, stocks, or a constable willing to enforce fines.



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Sandwich, Cape Cod

- ★ Marshall Gorge Barlow is hired to bring order to the Cape. Constables are generally allowed to keep half of any fines collectd.
- ★ Barlow takes liberal advantage of this “perk.”
- ★ Charges rapidly appear including refusing to serve as a constable, refusing to assist the constable, failing to remove one’s hat, not attending worship, and refusing to take the colony’s ‘oath of fidelity.’



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Sandwich, Cape Cod

- ★ Charges escalate to using “threatening speeches to the . . . marshall . . . turbulent carriages,” and making “unworthy speeches.”
- ★ The colony takes away Freeman’s status, which includes the right to vote, serve in the military, and to hold public offices.
- ★ In one year, 24 of the Sandwich Friends are fined.
- ★ Twenty-eight are imprisoned.



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Sandwich, Cape Cod

- ★ Offenses include possession of Quaker books or pamphlets, entertaining Quakers at one's house, or choosing to worship at home instead of at the public service.
- ★ Daniel Butler is whipped for helping a visiting Quaker escape arrest by Marshall Barlow.



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Sandwich, Cape Cod

★ Humphrey Norton was banished from the colony and then returned. He was sentenced to whipping, but was not whipped when he declined to pay the marshall's fee for the privilege. Norton was (again) banished.

★ Amos Otis records that among 21 Sandwich households, Marshall Barlow collected 129 cattle, 9 sheep, and 3 horses along with tools, kitchenwares, and food.



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Sandwich, Cape Cod

- ★ After King Charles II put a halt to many abuses against New England Friends, charges begin to appear against Marshall Barlow.
- ★ Barlow is ordered to return a pair of wheels belonging to Samuel Hicks. He is admonished for taking William Newland's horse without notice and investigated for "affronting William Gifford" near a bridge.



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Sandwich, Cape Cod

- ★ A complaint is filed against Barlow for levying a fine of seven cows. When one cow dies, Barlow returns for an eighth.
- ★ Barlow will spend time in the stocks.



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Sandwich, Cape Cod

- ★ Among those who appear in the colonial records regarding Sandwich are Thomas Butler, Stephen Wing and Daniel Wing. They were summoned multiple times for refusing to assist Barlow and numerous other offenses.
- ★ Butler and the two Wing brothers are ancestors of Abby Kelley Foster.
- ★ Their families will move from Cape Cod to the Blackstone Valley.



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

General James Cudworth

- ★ General James Cudworth was a military officer and colony leader.
- ★ He would be dismissed from his office and have his Freeman's status revoked for objecting to persecution of the Quakers and for speaking to them at his home.



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

General James Cudworth

★ General Cudworth would write, “It is Sad . . . He that will not whip and Lash, Persecute and Punish Men that Differ in Matters of Religion, must not . . . sustain any Office in the Commonwealth . . .

I told them, That as I was no Quaker so I would be no Persecutor . . .they cannot put it out of their minds, to see and hear of poor Families deprived of their Comforts, and brought in Penury and Want. . .



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

In the Massachusetts (namely, Boston-Colony) after they have Whipp'd them, they Cut their Ears, they have now, at last gone the furthest step they can, They Banish them upon pain of Death, if they ever come there again.

We expect that we must do the like ; we must Dance After their Pipe : Now Plimouth-Saddle is on th eBay-Horse .

..



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Our Civil Powers are so exercised in Things appertaining to the Kingdom of Christ, in Matters of Religion and Conscience, that we have no time to effect any thing that tends to the Promotion of the Civil Weal, or the prosperity of the Place ; but now we must have a State-Religion such as the Powers of the World will allow, and no other.”



A COZY CORNER, 1884
FRANK MILLET, The MET 5th Avenue

Salem

- ★ In Salem the persecutions were even more severe.
- ★ 1639–Glassmaker Lawrence Southwick and his wife Cassandra arrive in Salem from England. They bring four children with them and soon add a daughter.
- ★ Provided Southwick is baptized into the First Church in Salem in 1639.



MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Salem

- ★ 1657–Lawrence and Cassandra Southwick, now elderly, are imprisoned for entertaining Christopher Holder and John Copeland at their home.
- ★ Cassandra has a paper written by the Friends.
- ★ Lawrence is fined and released for further discipline by the church.
- ★ Cassandra is imprisoned for seven weeks.



MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Salem

- ★ The following year the Southwicks are imprisoned for four months with their son Josiah.
- ★ 1658–Josiah Southwick with John Small and John Burton are arrested on their way to Rhode Island.
- ★ May 11, 1659–The Massachusetts Bay General Court orders the Southwick's younger children, Daniel and Provided, to be enslaved and sold in Virginia or Barbados to pay fines.



MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

County Tres-
urers power to
sell p^rsons
fined, &c.

Whereas Daniell and Provided Southwicke, sonne & daughter to Lawrence Southwicke, haue binn fyned by the County Courts at Salem & Ipswich, p^rtending they haue no estates, resolving not to worke, and others likewise haue binn fyned, & more like to be fyned, for siding wth the Quakers & absenting themselves from the publicke ordinances, — in ans^r to a quæstion, what course shallbe taken for the sattisfaction of the fines, the Court, on p^rvsall of the lawe, title Arrests, resolve, that the Tresurers of the seuerall countjes are and shall hereby be impowred to sell the sajd persons to any of the English nation at Virginia or Barbadoes.

Colonial order for the sale of Daniel and Provided Southwick. May 11, 1659

Being suspected of holding Quaker beliefs

Failing to remove a hat

Quakers staying at your home

Failing to bow or curtsy

Failing to attend Puritan services

Failing to use language of honor

Failing to pay tax for the Puritan minister

Women ministers

Ears cut off, hot irons, whipping, imprisonment, deportation, enslavement, hanging
political disenfranchisements: unable to vote, buy land, or marry

Salem

- ★ A county clerk tries to execute the sale of the younger Southwicks, but cannot find a ship captain willing to carry them aboard.
- ★ Another daughter, Mary Southwick Trask is also imprisoned.



MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Salem

- ★ Lawrence and Cassandra along with their son Josiah Southwick and Samuel Shattock, Nicholas Phelps, and Joshua Buffum are banished.
- ★ With a few weeks to wrap up their affairs, they travel to Shelter Island (near Long Island).
- ★ Their daughters Mary Southwick Trask and Provided Southwick are imprisoned when Mary Dyer and two other Quaker men are sentenced to death and hanged.



MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Salem

- ★ November 12, 1659—Provided Southwick, along with 10 other Quakers whipped in prison for “failing to give any civil respect.”
- ★ May 1660—the colonial court orders that the husbands of Mary Southwick Trask and Margaret Smith, the half-sister of Joshua Buffum, take them out of the colony. If not, they will remain in prison.



MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Salem

- ★ 8 May 1660–Parliament restores King Charles II to the throne.
- ★ 21 May 1660–The Mass. Court orders that imprisoned Quakers go to England or leave the colony within eight days.
- ★ Mary Southwick Trask likely sails to England.
- ★ The same month Lawrence and Cassandra Southwick die at Shelter Island within three days of one another.



MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Account of Ministers of the first Church in Salem
Mr. Higginson Teacher & Sam. Shelton Pastor settled Aug. 6. 1629
Mr. Higginson died in Aug. 1630
Mr. Shelton died Aug. 2. 1634
Roger Williams settled here about 1633 continued about 2 years
and then with some of his Church removed to Providence
Hugh Peter settled in 1635 he went home as Agent in 1641.
was there when King Charles was beheaded & in 1661 lost his
Life
John Cook preached here from Mr. Peter going home on his return
from the year 1641 to 1653 when he removed to Wrentham

Account of Ministers of the First Church in Salem

“Hugh Peter settled in 1635 He went home as Agent
in 1641. Was there when King Charles was beheaded.
In 1661 lost his Life.”



Salem

- ★ December 19, 1660—King Charles II reviews the colony's treatment of dissenters, including Quakers. Josiah Southwick, Nicholas Phelps, and Samuel Shattock request the king's help.
- ★ September 9, 1661—The King commands that all governors in New England halt punishments and executions of Quakers.
- ★ June 1661—More than a dozen Quakers are released jail and cart-whipped to Rhode Island.

MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue



Salem

- ★ Provided Southwick survives the persecutions and returns to Salem by 1662.
- ★ She marries Samuel Gaskill/Gaskin in Salem and they have five children.
- ★ Mary Southwick Trask stays in England for some time, then returns to Salem.

MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Salem

- ★ Josiah Southwick names his daughter after their mother, Cassandra and lives in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.
- ★ 1692—A woman in Provided's household is accused of witchcraft.



MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Salem

- ★ Provided Southwick lives with her son Samuel Gaskill/Gaskin who makes a will in 1725 and directs she be cared for in the house of her grandson, Jonathan and to “provide and support my aged mother Provided Gaskill and after her decease shall allot her a decent funeral.”
- ★ Jonathan will own land in northern Rhode Island (Cumberland) and in Salem.



MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue



Salem

- ★ Zacheaus Collins will record in his diary 4-day 12-mo 1727/8 (February 4, 1727) “first day at Salem at old Provided Gaskells buriel.”
- ★ Provided Southwick was likely laid to rest in Salem in an unmarked grave, in accord with early Friends’ traditions.

MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue



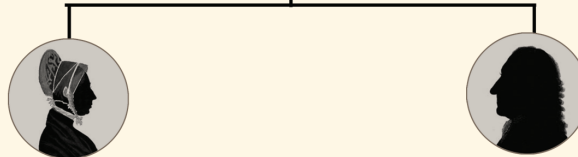
Salem

- ★ Grandchildren of Provided Southwick Gaskell and her brother Daniel Southwick live in the Cumberland region of Rhode Island and the adjoining Mendon region of Massachusetts.
- ★ Cemetery records from Salem include the surnames of Gaskill, Boyce, Brown, Buffum, Buxton, Chase, Foster, Nichols, Pope, Symonds, and Trask.

MENDING THE TEARS, 1888
WINSLOW HOMER, The MET 5th Avenue

Lawrence Southwick m. Cassandra Burnell

SALEM – immigrated after 1637



Provided Southwick Gaskill (sister)

SALEM – b. 1641 (born in Salem)

Daniel David Southwick (brother)

SALEM – after 1637 (born in England)

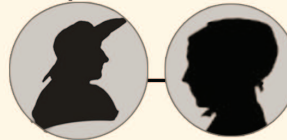
Daniel Southwick m.
Ruth Shove
MENDON, MA – d. 1776



Elizabeth Buxton m. Benjamin Buffum
SMITHFIELD, RI – d. 1748

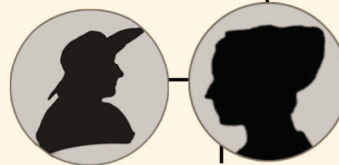
Elizabeth Buffum m. Daniel Comstock
PROVIDENCE, RI - B. 1709

Joseph Buffum m. Margaret B. Osborne
SMITHFIELD, RI -before 1737



Moses Farnum m. Sarah Comstock
UXBRIDGE, MA – b. 1730

William Buffum m. Lydia M. Arnold
NORTH SMITHFIELD, RI - b. 1741



Moses Farnum m. Rachael Daniels **Diana Daniels**
UXBRIDGE, MA – b. 1770

Lucy Buffum m. Walter Allen
SMITHFIELD, RI – b. 1772

Arnold Buffum m. Rebecca Gould
WOONSOCKET, RI – b. 1782



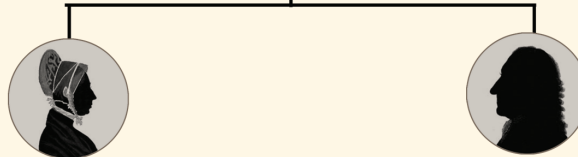
**Abby Kelley m.
Stephen Symonds Foster**

**Lydia Buffum Allen m.
Effingham Capron**

SARAH BUFFUM BORDON ELIZABETH BUFFUM CHASE LUCY BUFFUM LOVELL REBECCA BUFFUM SPRING LYDIA BUFFUM READ WILLIAM ARNOLD BUFFUM EDWARD BUFFUM

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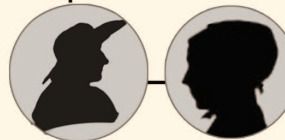
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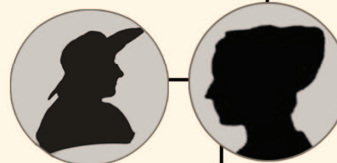
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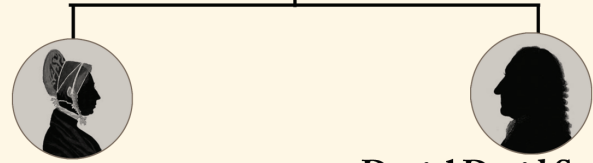
LYDIA
BUFFUM
READ

WILLIAM
ARNOLD
BUFFUM

EDWARD
BUFFUM

Underground Railroad Safe Houses & Stations

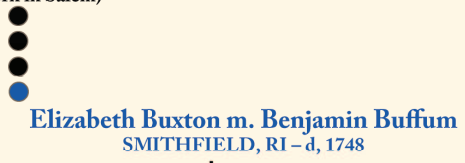
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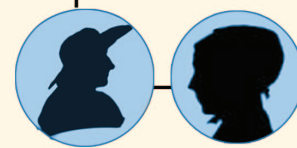
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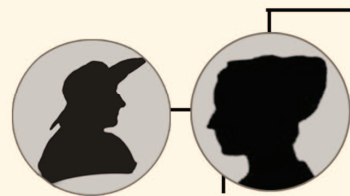
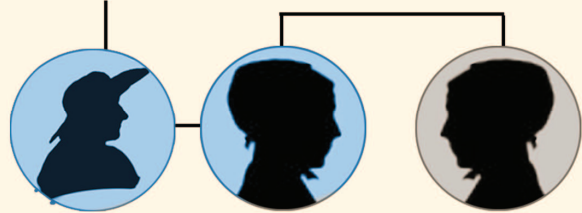
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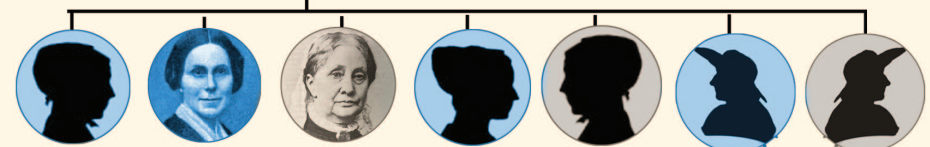


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BORDON

ELIZABETH
BUFFUM
CHASE

LUCY
BUFFUM
LOVELL

REBECCA
BUFFUM
SPRING

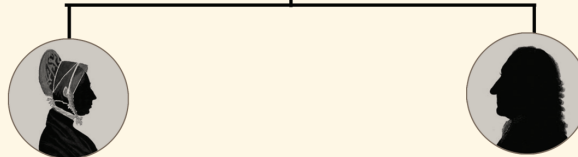
LYDIA
BUFFUM
READ

WILLIAM
ARNOLD
BUFFUM

EDWARD
BUFFUM

Lawrence Southwick m. Cassandra Burnell

SALEM - immigrated after 1637



Provided Southwick Gaskill (sister)

SALEM - b. 1641 (born in Salem)

Daniel David Southwick (brother)

SALEM - after 1637 (born in England)

Abolitionists

Daniel Southwick m. Ruth Shove
MENDON, MA - d. 1776



Elizabeth Buxton m. Benjamin Buffum
SMITHFIELD, RI - d. 1748

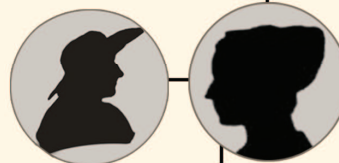
Elizabeth Buffum m. Daniel Comstock
PROVIDENCE, RI - B. 1709

Joseph Buffum m. Margaret B. Osborne
SMITHFIELD, RI - before 1737



Moses Farnum m. Sarah Comstock
UXBRIDGE, MA - b. 1730

William Buffum m. Lydia M. Arnold
NORTH SMITHFIELD, RI - b. 1741



Moses Farnum m. Rachael Daniels
UXBRIDGE, MA - b. 1770

Diana Daniels

Lucy Buffum m. Walter Allen
SMITHFIELD, RI - b. 1772

Arnold Buffum m. Rebecca Gould
WOONSOCKET, RI - b. 1782



Abby Kelley m. Stephen Symonds Foster



Lydia Buffum Allen m. Effingham Capron



SARAH BUFFUM BORDON

ELIZABETH BUFFUM CHASE

LUCY BUFFUM LOVELL


REBECCA BUFFUM SPRING


LYDIA BUFFUM READ


WILLIAM ARNOLD BUFFUM

EDWARD BUFFUM



 National Park Service
Network to Freedom

 Tuft's African
American
Trail Project

 Other
known sites

Siebert's
Underground Railroad
 The Underground Railroad from Slavery
 to Freedom" by Wilbur H. Siebert, 1898
 1935 Edition, with additions



The Underground Railroad in Southern New England

WH Seibert. 1936. American Antiquarian Society

A Mother's Tale

Mrs. Nancy Adams




WOMAN & CHILD, 1950
SELMA BURKE, SMITHSONIAN



From the Records

In 1840, Mrs. Nancy Adams participates in an Antislavery Conference and donates 25 cents.

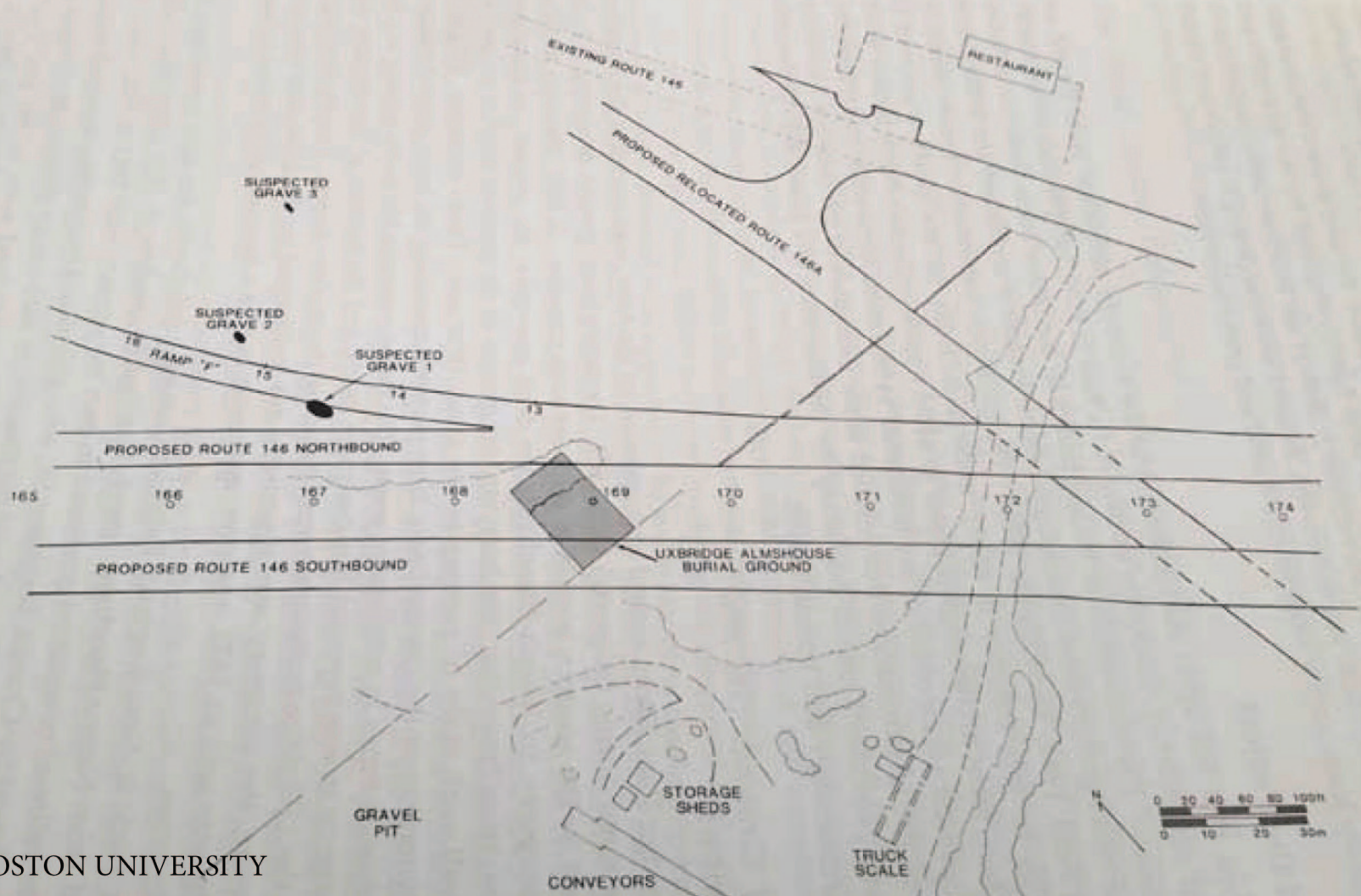
In 1846, a letter from her is published by William Lloyd Garrison, a founder of the Antislavery movement, thanking her for a basket of cakes.

A dark, textured sculpture of a woman and child, likely Selma Burke's 'Woman & Child'. The woman is shown in profile, looking down, with her hands clasped near her face. The child is positioned behind her, also looking down. The sculpture is made of a dark, possibly bronze or wood, material with a rough, weathered texture.

Census records shows her living in Uxbridge in 1850 and 1855. She spent the last year of her life at the Almshouse after being cared for by an Irish family.

Her death certificate records she had been enslaved and places her age at death at 100 years old.

An ornate headstone marks her grave. It is the only headstone bearing a name at the Uxbridge Almshouse Cemetery.



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Original location of the Almshouse Cemetery, Uxbridge

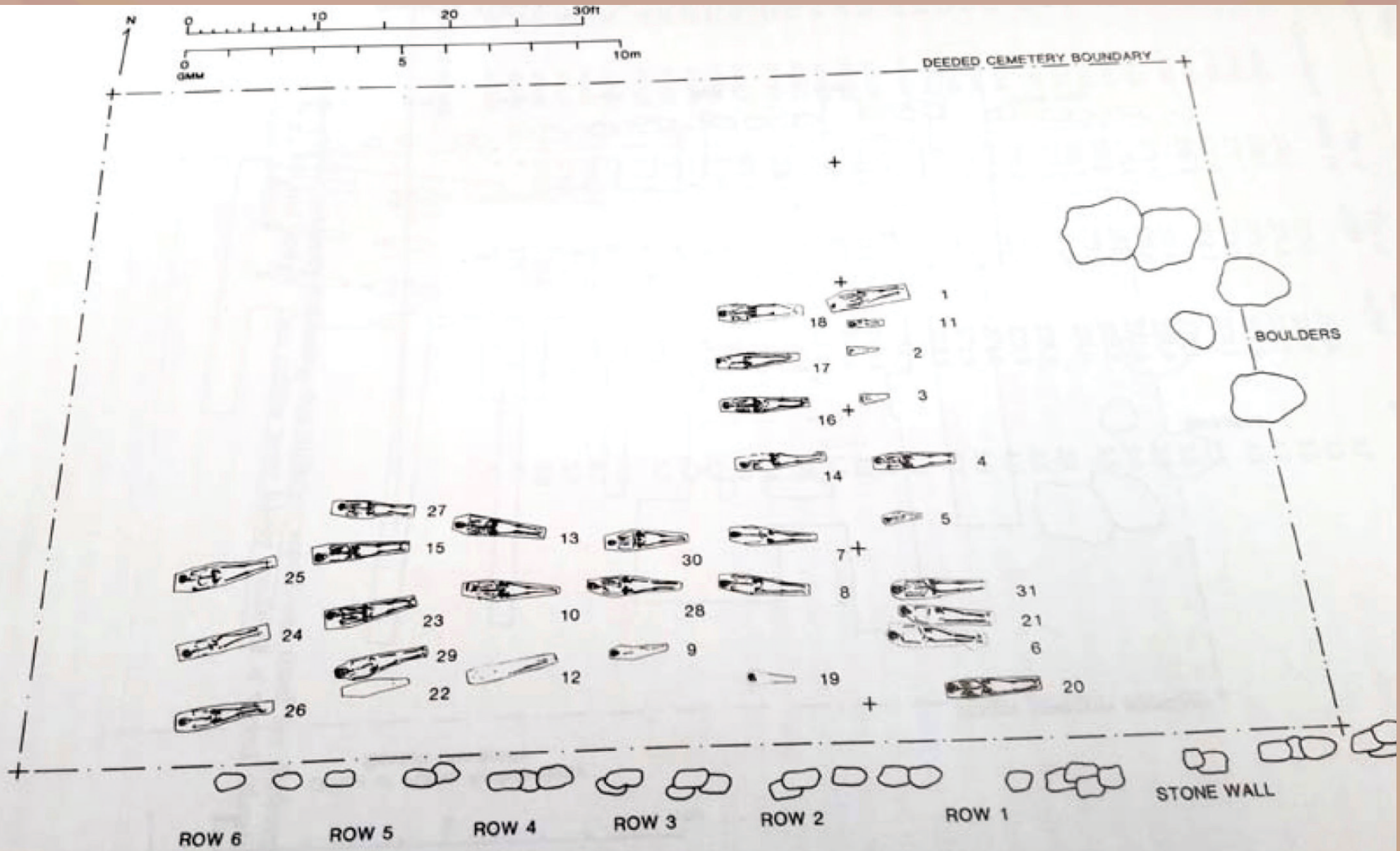
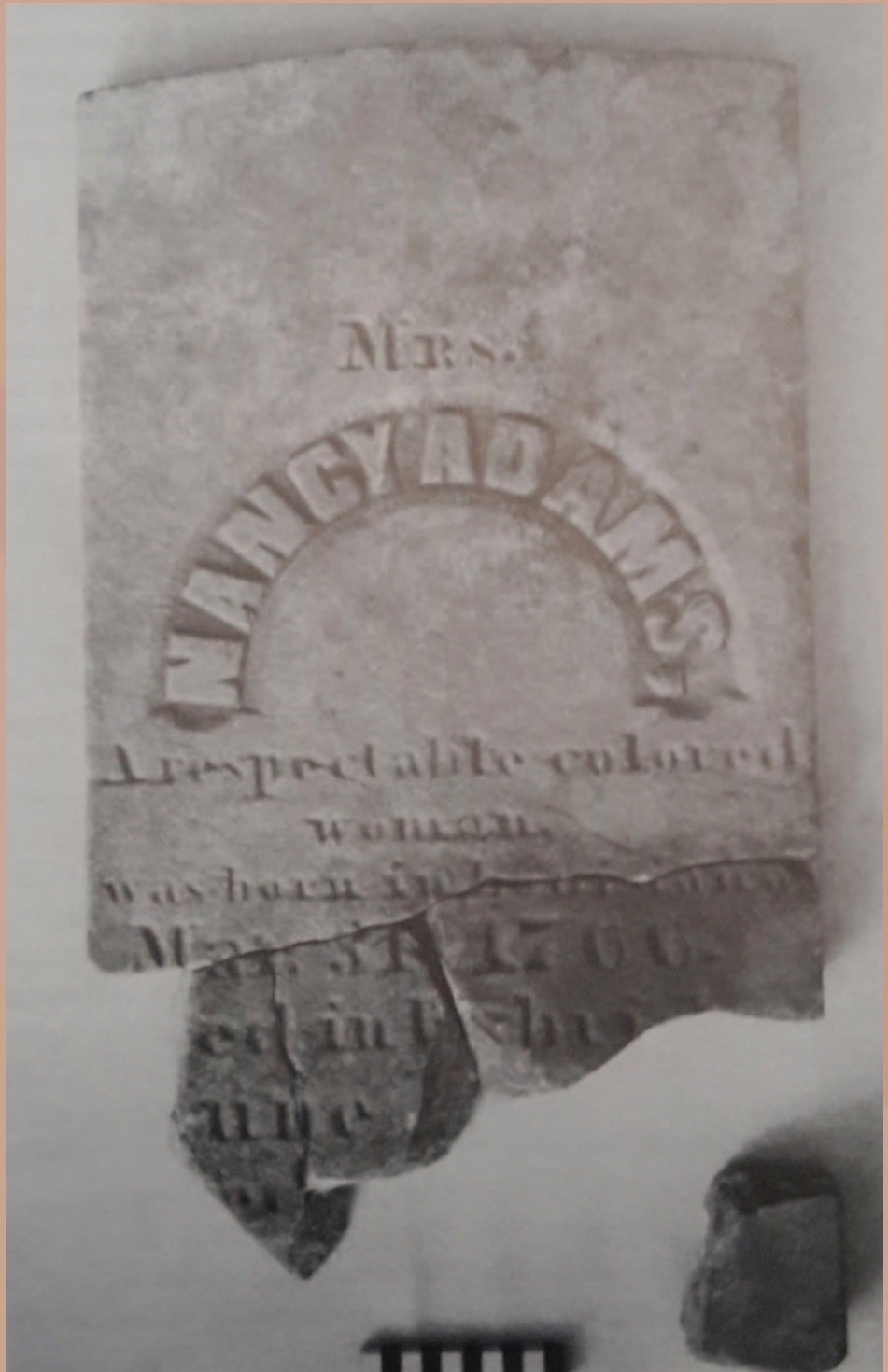
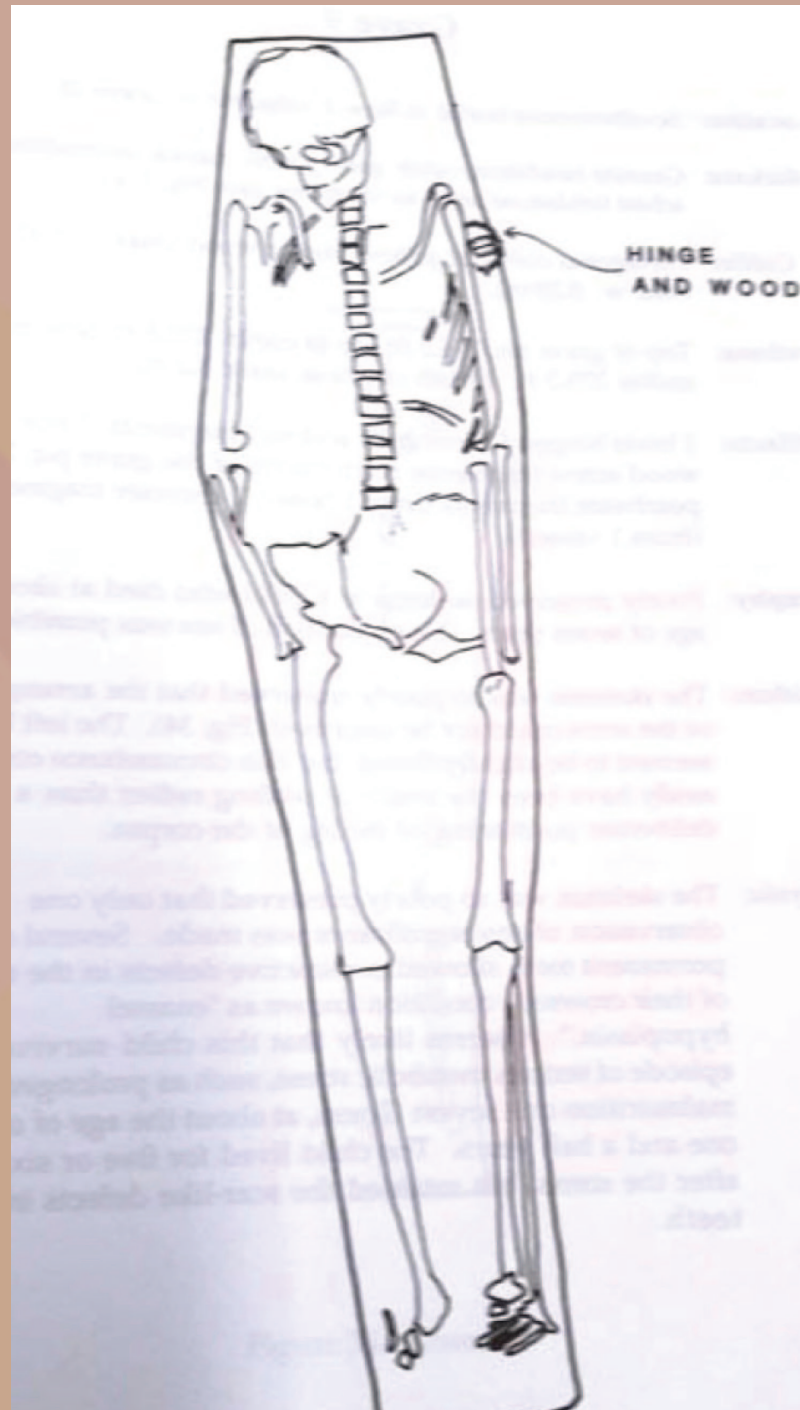


Figure 18. Uxbridge Almshouse Burial Ground: plan of graves.

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COURTESY OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY



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COURTESY OF ROY HENRY



COURTESY OF ROY HENRY



COURTESY OF ROY HENRY



COURTESY OF ROY HENRY



Weybridge March 30th 1838

My dear friends

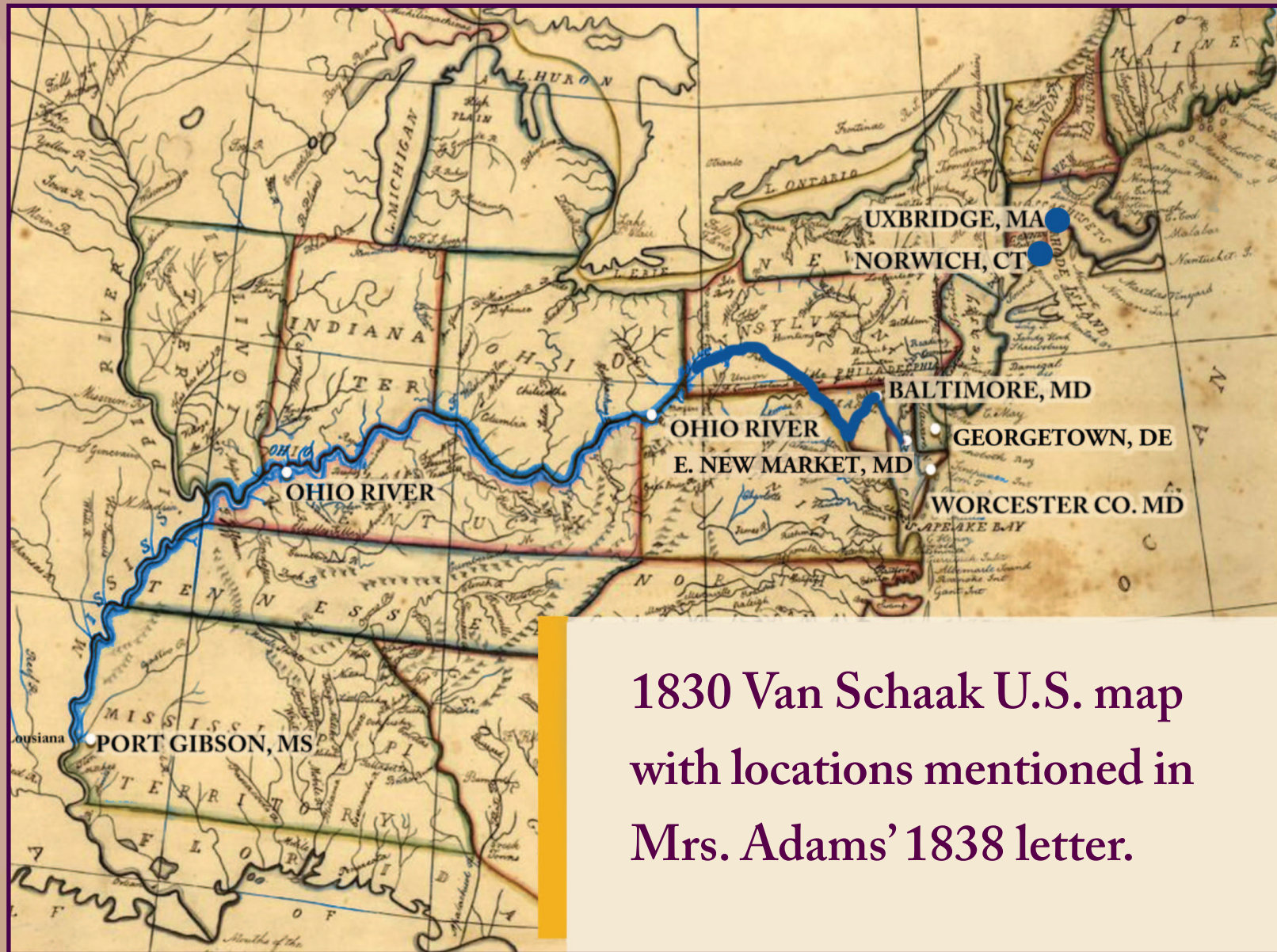
I received your very acceptable letter, requesting me to give an account of my life which I shall do as far as I am able. I was born in the eastern part of Maryland. I was married when I was about 17. About three years after the my master was going to sell us to the Spaniards. But our misters to whom we belonged did not want us to go and told us to go away somewhere and stay until he got over the fit, selling us. And we went, I, my husband and two children and lived in the woods five months with no food but acorn and no shelter but a large tree which had been blown up by the roots and which we cut out with our own hands. Our master had now given us up for dead and said that he would let any one that could find us have us for

WOMAN & CHILD, 1950
SELMA BURKE, SMITHSONIAN

Uxbridge March 30th 1838

My dear friends

I received your very acceptable letter requesting me to give an account of my life which I shall do as far as I am able. I was born in the eastern part of Maryland. I was married when I was about 17. About three years after that my master was going to sell us to the Spaniards. But our mistress to whom we belonged did not want us to go and told us to go away somewhere and stay until he got over the fit of selling us. And we went, I, my husband and two children and lived in the woods five months with no food but acorns and no shelter but a large tree which had been blown up by the roots and which we cut out with our own hands. Our master had now given us up for dead and said that he would let any one that could find us have us for a price. I think that the slaves were small he sold us



1830 Van Schaak U.S. map
 with locations mentioned in
 Mrs. Adams' 1838 letter.



1848 La Tourette Map: Tensas Parish Plantations

POSTED

MRS.
NANGY ADAMS
A respectable colored
woman
was born in Louisiana
Mar. 31, 1766
Died in Uxbridge
June 6, 1859



Native Americans and the U.S. Constitution

- ★ Both the U.S. Declaration of Independence and the Constitution embody ideals learned from indigenous peoples.
- ★ All have equal voices.
- ★ Consensus and consent are necessary
- ★ Separation of military and civil powers.
- ★ Federation of tribal nations.



SKY WOMAN, after 1934
ERNEST SMITH, Rochester Museum & Science Ctr.

*All people are created equal
in the sight of God*

Society of Friends, 1657

*All men are free and equal
and have certain natural,
essential, and unalienable rights*

Massachusetts Constitution, 1780

*All people are free and equal
and have certain natural,
essential, and unalienable rights*

Massachusetts Constitution, 1982



Wheelock School, Uxbridge, Massachusetts, c. 1880



Literacy Test Box

PLAINFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS – HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Freedom of Conscience

★ “All the power of civil government relates only to men’s civil interest, is confined to the care of the things of this world, and hath nothing to do with the world to come . . . that the Church of Christ should persecute others, and force others by fire and sword to embrace her faith and doctrine, I could never yet find in any of the books of the New Testament”



JOHN LOCKE MEDAL, 1733
JEAN DASSIER, BRITISH LIBRARY

Freedom of Conscience

★ “If any man err from the right way, it is his own misfortune, no injury to thee; nor therefore art thou to punish him in the things of this life because thou supposest he will be miserable in that which is to come.”



JOHN LOCKE MEDAL, 1733
JEAN DASSIER, BRITISH LIBRARY

Freedom of Conscience

★ “The care of souls cannot belong to the civil magistrate, because his power consists only in outward force; but true and saving religion consists in the inward persuasion of the mind, without which nothing can be acceptable to God . . . it is one thing to persuade, another to command; one thing to press with arguments, another with penalties.”

– John Locke, Letter on Toleration, 1689



JOHN LOCKE MEDAL, 1733
JEAN DASSIER, BRITISH LIBRARY

Freedom of Conscience

- ★ John Locke's ideas were closely studied by the writers of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.
- ★ His language and thought are in the DNA of the American ideals of freedom of religion, freedom of speech and, above all, freedom of conscience.



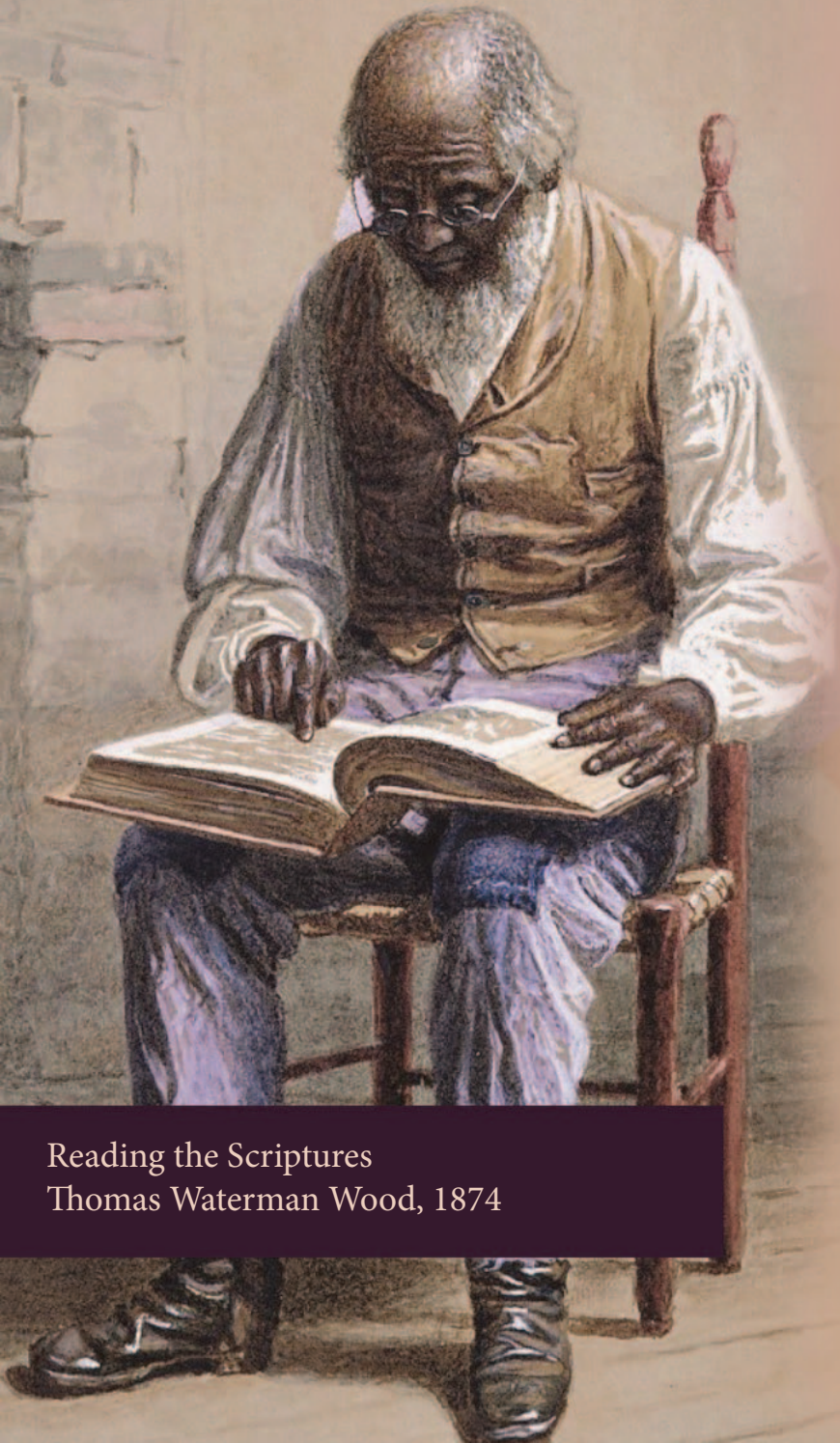
JOHN LOCKE MEDAL, 1733
JEAN DASSIER, BRITISH LIBRARY



Dr. Sarah Parker Remond

“Woman has the same individual right to determine her aim in life, and to follow it; has the same individual rights of body and of spirit,—of mind and conscience, and heart and soul; the same physical rights, the same intellectual, moral, affectional and religious rights, that man has.”

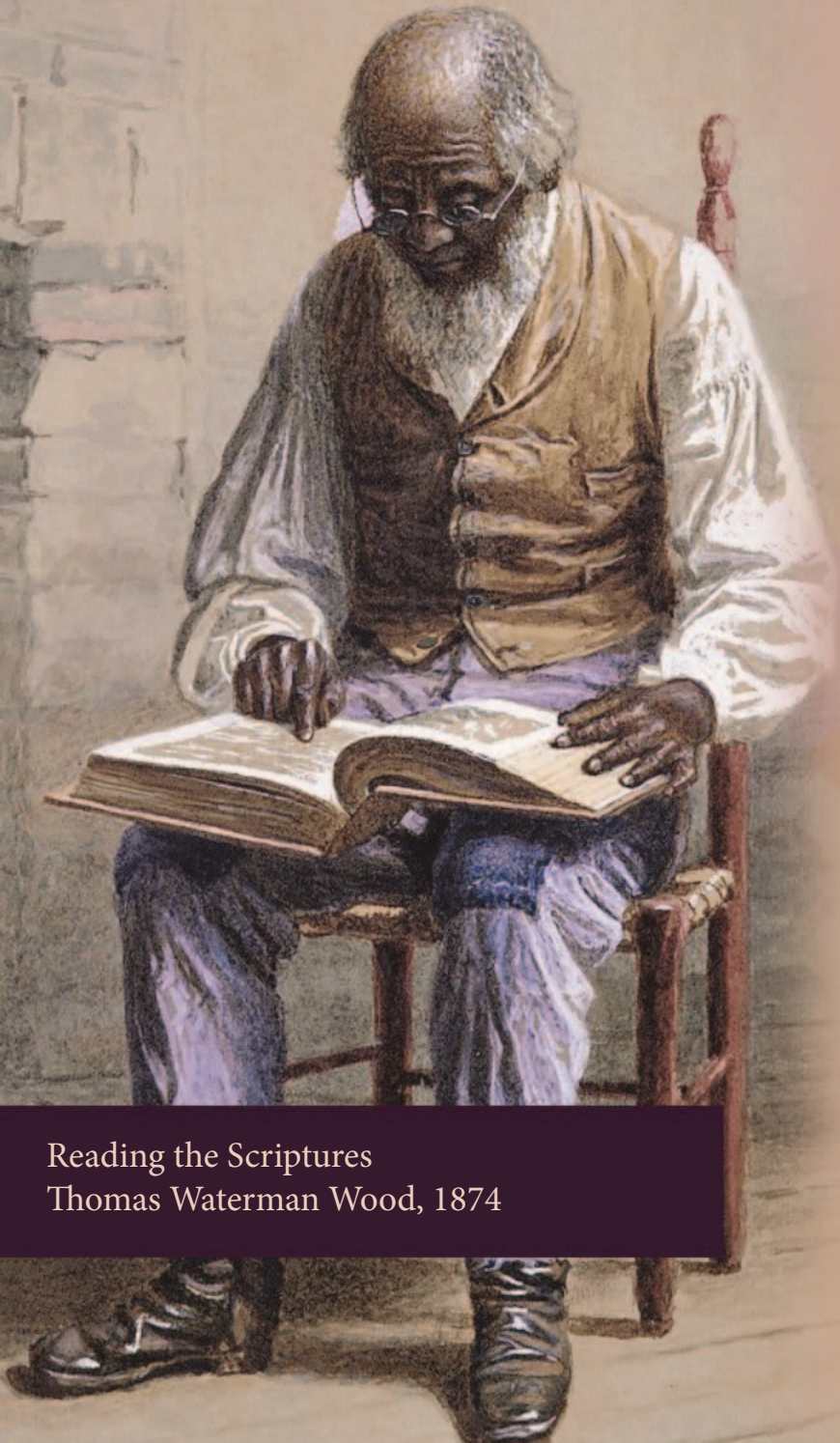
—Theodore Parker



Reading the Scriptures
Thomas Waterman Wood, 1874

In a letter to Charles B. Ray, Charles L. Remond would observe,

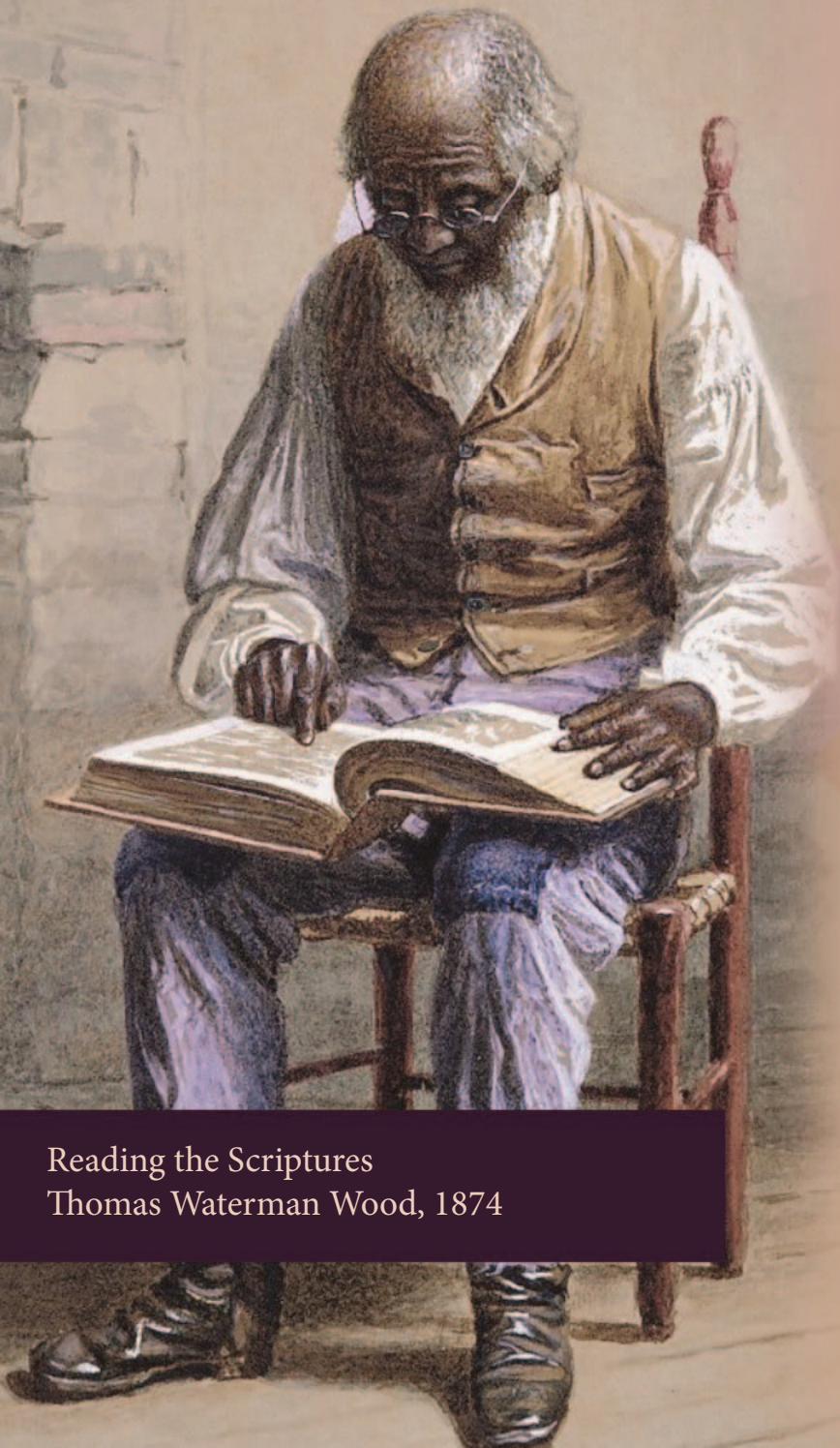
“A few words in relation to slavery's grand handmaid, in the states proclaimed to be non-slaveholding. I mean prejudice, that acts the part to slavery of seconding at arms, and exercises its authority by assisting in kidnapping the innocent and free at the capitol, disfranchises the citizens



of Pennsylvania, proscribes the colored man in Rhode Island, and gives him no resting place as a man in New Hampshire...

If you would rouse the honest indignation of the intelligent Englishman, tell him of our school and academy exclusions.

Reading the Scriptures
Thomas Waterman Wood, 1874



If you would enlist the sympathies of the pious, refer him to our Negro pews in the house of worship, and when you tell him of the Jim Crow car, the top of the stage coach, the forward deck of the steamboat, as the only place for colored people to occupy, he at once, turning pale, then red, inquires if this is American republicanism.”

Reading the Scriptures
Thomas Waterman Wood, 1874

Finding Freedom in the Blackstone River Valley

1780

Unnamed family.
Homestead at the
William Buffum Farm
No. Smithfield, RI



1833

Susan
Recorded in letter
from Rebecca Buffum
to her sister, Elizabeth
Buffum Chase
Uxbridge, MA



May have moved to
Fall River or Worces-
ter

1838

Mrs. Nancy Adams
Norwich, CT
Uxbridge, MA



1848

John S. Jacobs and another unnamed male freedom seeker speak in Uxbridge at Taft Hall. The unnamed man had lived in Monson until an attempt to capture him. In 1850 Jacobs would go to California then Australia.



Finding Freedom in the Blackstone River Valley

1845

Frederick Douglas
Uxbridge - June 1845
Britain - August 1845
Stays 19 months
British Friends Anna
Richardson and her sis-
ter-in-law raised \$150 to
pay Douglas' slaveholder
so he could return to the
United States.



1851

Harriet Tubman takes
her parents and fam-
ily to St. Catharine's,
Canada. Her father had
been a conductor on the
Underground Railroad.
They will stay in Can-
ada for at least 6 years.
She visits often Boston
& New Bedford

1850

Sojourner Truth speaks
in Uxbridge and the
Blackstone Valley. She
escaped in 1826 in New
York. In 1827 New York
declared enslaved adults
free. Children were still
bound servants into their
20s. She won in court
when a son was sold away
to Alabama. 1857 she
goes to Michigan.



1849

Henry "Box" Brown
speaks in Uxbridge at
an Anti-slavery meet-
ing. In 1850 he would
go to Britain and stay
25 years.



Questions?